

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-16, 19-34, 40, 45-62, and 64-85 remain in the application with claims 1, 15, 33, and 34 having been amended hereby. Claim 63 has been previously canceled and claims 2-3, 17-18, 35-39, and 41-44 have been canceled hereby without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 40, 45-62, and 64-85.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 4-16, and 19-32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,708,299 to Xie.

The Examiner has noted that claims 3 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the limitations of claim 3 have been written into claims 1 and 4-14 by amendment hereby and the limitations of claim 18 have been written into claims 15, 16, and 19-32. Therefore, claims 1, 4-16, and 19-32 are allowable.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested for the objection to claims 33 and 34 as being dependent upon rejected base claims.

Accordingly, these claims have been amended to appear in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, claims 33 and 34 are allowable.

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited, and it is

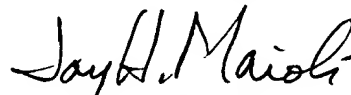
respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims hereby raise no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, because all of the features of this invention have clearly been considered by the examiner in the prosecution of this application and because the present amendments serve only to further define and emphasize the novel features of this invention.

The number of independent claims has not been increased by the present Amendment and accordingly, no additional fee is due.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay H. Maioli".

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JHM/JBG